

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/731,865

Examiner

Jon A Szumny

Applicant(s)

OH, SEUNG-IL

Art Unit

3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to December 10, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/30/04</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

This is the first office action for application number 10/731,865, Mounting Structure for Sprinklers, filed on December 10, 2003.

Information Disclosure Statement

Receipt is acknowledged of Form PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Statement, which has been reviewed by the Examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, page 16, line 3, "inward" has been changed to --inwardly--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art, for instance of Choi '231, taught examples of mounting apparatuses for sprinklers, each comprising a pair a pair of ceiling support rails horizontally extending in parallel to the ceiling in a building, with a predetermined gap defined between the pair of ceiling support rails; a pair of vertical brackets respectively mounted at lower ends thereof to upper ends of the pair of ceiling support rails; a reducer support beam horizontally held on upper ends of the pair of vertical brackets to be perpendicular to the ceiling support rails; and a fixing bracket mounted to a predetermined portion of

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the reducer support beam between the pair ceiling support rails, as to vertically hold a sprinkler reducer which has a sprinkler head at an end thereof.

However, the prior art failed to further specifically teach a) first and second mounting holes to be formed on rear parts of upper portions of first and second vertical side walls of each vertical bracket so as to be respectively aligned with each other, b) first and second hook-type locking grooves to be formed on predetermined positions of front edges of the first and second vertical sidewalls, respectively, and c) a locking unit formed by bending a wire having a predetermined diameter and strength, the locking unit having at an intermediate portion thereof a locking part so as to be removably locked to the hook-type locking grooves, with first and second ends of the locking unit being rotatably held in the first and second mounting holes so that the locking unit rotates around the first and second mounting holes, thus being locked to the hook-type locking grooves.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Miike et al. '050, Miike et al. '641, Lo Nigro '889, Schuplin '657, Kehoe et al. '466, Choi '231 and Pfaller '983 divulge various mounting apparatuses for mounting between pairs of horizontally extending parallel ceiling support rails.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jon A Szumny whose telephone number is (703) 306-3403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application and proceeding are assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.



Jon Szumny
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600
Art Unit 3632
June 15, 2004



ANITA KING
PRIMARY EXAMINER